

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

**MATULA et al**

Serial No. **Unknown**

National Phase of: **PCT/FI00/00695**

International Filing Date: **17 August 2000**

Atty. Ref.: **30-555**

Group:

#3  
Jue Amatt/H  
5/30/02

Filed: **Herewith**

Examiner:

For: **WIRE PIT**

\* \* \* \* \*

February 15, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, ~~after~~ the title insert the following:

--This application is the U.S. national phase of international application  
PCT/FI00/00695 filed August 20, 2000, which designated the U.S.--.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please substitute the following claims 20 through ~~39~~ for claims 1 through 19  
previously presented.

20. Wire pit for an approach system of a web formation machine comprising:  
a chute located in an upper portion of the wire pit for receiving white water,